

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Attention: News Director  
For Immediate Release  
February 6, 2007**



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
DAVID L. HUBER  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
Western District of Kentucky**

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**ELIZABETHTOWN WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO AIDING A DESERTER**

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that **VIRGINIA L. JOHNSON**, age 36, of 2911 South Wilson Street, Elizabethtown, Kentucky, in Hardin County, **pled guilty** to assisting a Fort Knox soldier in deserting the United States Army.

The maximum potential penalties are 3 years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and a 3 year period of supervised release.

**Johnson** admitted that, while working at a cafeteria for soldiers on Fort Knox, she assisted a soldier leave the post without authorized leave. The soldier was later apprehended. Johnson communicated with the soldier through notes written on napkins and exchanged during meal time. Through notes and other secret communications, she arranged to sneak the soldier off post in exchange for \$200. That night, **Johnson** met with the soldier on Fort Knox, drove him off of the military installation, took \$200 as payment, and then left him at a gas station where he could get a bus ticket.

The case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant United States Attorney Dan E. Stigall, and it was investigated by the United States Army, Fort Knox Military Police Investigations Section.

The plea was entered before John G. Heyburn, II, Chief Judge, United States District Court, Louisville, Kentucky.

**Johnson** is scheduled to be sentenced before Chief Judge John G. Heyburn II on May 1, 2007, at 2:30 p.m., in Louisville, Kentucky.

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